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FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5179

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E.O. 12958, Sec. 3.5
State Dept. Guidelines
By KBH, NARA, Date 2/1/00

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FOR THE SECRETARY FROM THE AMBASSADOR

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E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: AEMR, VS
SUBJECT: E AND E

REFS: A) STATE 082577; B) SAIGON 4527

1. REFTEL RECIEVED. I HAVE ASKED ADMIRAL BENTON, PRESENTLY ON LOAN TO US FROM CINCPAC, COORDINATION THE REFUGEE SHIPPING, TO STAY ON AND WORK WITH GENERAL SMITH IN COMPLETING AS REPIDLY AS POSSIBLE THE ALTERNATIVES UNDER ALL CONCEIVABLE OPTIONS FOR A RAPID MASSIVE EVACUATION, SHOULD THAT BECOME NECESSARY.

2. WE WILL PROCEED "AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE, AND WITH APPROPRIATE REGARD FOR THE INTER-RELATIONSHIP OF THE POLITICAL AND MILITARY REALITIES ON THE GROUND" TO REDUCE THE OFFICIAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY TO APPROXIMATELY 1250 AS OUTLINED IN PARA 1 (A) (6). OUR PRIMARY PROBLEM IS GOING TO BE WITH THE DEFENSE ATTACHE'S OFFICE AND THE DEFENSE CONTRACTORS, MANY OF WHOM HAVE ACQUIRED VIETNAMESE WIVES AND DEPENDENTS. WE HAVE DRASTICALLY CURTAILED THE TIME FOR OBTAINING EXIT PERMITS FROM THE GVN AND WE SHALL NEED SIMILAR ACTION IN DELEGATING TO THE CONSUL GENERAL THE AUTHORITY TO WAIVE MANY OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR DOCUMENTATION PRESENTLY REQUIRED FOR AMERICAN VISAS FOR THIS GROUP. THE ONLY OTHER ALTERNATIVE IS PAROLE AND IF THIS OPTION IS SELECTED YOU MUST GET THE AUTHORITY OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL TO PERMIT THIS OPTION TO BE USED. WITH THE

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AUTHORITY OBTAINED FOR EITHER OF THESE OPTIONS WE CAN MOVE VERY EXPEDITIOUSLY IN MEETING OUR GOAL.

3. CONCURRENTLY WE HAVE BEGUN TO ENCOURAGE THE NON-OFFICIAL COMMUNITY TO REDUCE THEIR NUMBERS BY SENDING OUT THEIR DEPENDENTS AND LESS ESSENTIAL PERSONNEL.

4. THE ABOVE MEASURES APPLY TO THE OFFICIAL AMERICAN COMMUNITY. IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL SHOULD AN EMERGENCY DEVELOP THAT WE BEGIN TO MOVE OUR LOCAL VIETNAMESE NOW CURRENTLY EMPLOYED BY THE USG AND THEIR FAMILIES ALONG WITH THE AMERICANS. THIS IS THE MOST IMPORTANT AND SERIOUS ELEMENT BECAUSE OUR OBLIGATION TO THESE PEOPLE IS FAR GREATER THAN TO THE OTHER CATEGORIES OF VIETNAMESE. THE ONLY PRACTICAL ALTERNATIVE THAT WE SEE OPEN IS THE USE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S PAROLE AUTHORITY AND I ASSUME THIS WILL BE FORTHCOMING TO BE USED AT OUR DISCRETION. ON THE LARGER PROBLEM OF THE OTHER VIETNAMESE HOW MANY AND ON WHAT KIND OF DOCUMENTATION, WE SHALL BE AWAITING WITH GREAT INTEREST THE DECISIONS WHICH WILL HAVE TO BE MADE THERE.
MARTIN

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